1: Allen H-4 (no date) 1932 RI1 Georgia RI1

the Mountains of Likhi in far better state than were Kartli and Kakheti. Coming from Astrakhan, the mission in company with a Georgian emissary on his way home from Moscow, crossed the mountains through the Balkar country. In Kutais they conducted protracted business with King Alexander III, the patron of the Dominican Castelli, and they followed his court to Skanda; they also saw the exiled King Taymuraz I of Kakheti, whose fortunes had ebbed even lower than when Mishetski saw him, and to whom Alexander had allotted a country estate in Radsha. The Russian mission passed through a prosperous and thriving countryside, and they remarked the numerous castles, fortified manors, the stone and timber churches, and the many villages with their scattered dwellings lying among gardens, orchards and vineyards. Tolochanov gives a long description of Kutais where he greatly admired the palaces and churches; he visited Gelati and noted carefully, with the interest of a reverend Russian, the most famous of the icons which were shown for the edification of the distinguished foreigners. Tolochanov made what was nothing less than a detailed survey of the country, and he reports information supplied to him by Pashenga (Peshangi) the King's secretary, which may indeed have been prepared with the object of creating a favourable impression on him.[1] According to Peshangi, the important *mtavarni* of Imereti numbered over 100, and there were more than 1,100 *aznaurni* subject either to the Crown or to the different *mtavarni*. The figures given by Peshangi indicate that a full levy of the Kingdom would put about 15,000 men into the field,[2] in addition to the royal forces which were permanently maintained and which numbered 3,000 men. The King's personal serfs, including the people of Kutais, Skanda and other smaller towns, were given by Peshangi as 60,000. Tolochanov reports the crops as wheat, barley, spelt, millet, beans, peas, springcorn, hemp and others, and he states that cereals were gathered twice in the summer. Silkworms were cultivated in almost every home; there were iron-mines in the country and some fagotted iron was produced; copper was plentiful and natural saltpetre was found in the mountains. There were cattle and fowl of all kinds in abundance, and among wild animals he noted deer, elk, roebuck, wild pigs and goats, beavers, otters, foxes, lynx, wolves and rabbits.

[1] Polievktov, *Tolochanov*, pp. 186 *et seq.*

[2] Taking an average of more than 10 serfs to each of the *aznaurni*. Peshangi's statement that 40,000 men could be brought out, seems an obvious exaggeration to impress Tolochanov.

7: Columbia U.S-4, 5 1956 RHI Caucasia RHI
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C. G. 197 LANGUAGE: Georgian (Kartuli ena) belongs with Mingrelian, Laz, and Svan, to the S Caucasian (or Kartvelian) language family. It has an old literary tradition going back to the 5th century A. D., and a script of its own.

SUBDIVISIONS: The Georgian dialects fall into two groups: E and W Georgian. E dialects: Kartluri (with sub-dialects Meskh and Dzhavakh), K'akhuri, Ingilouri, Tushuri, Khevsuruli, Pshauri, Mokhev, Mtiuli, (Fereidan in Iran). W dialects: Imeruli Rach'uli, Lechkhum, Guruli (including Adzhar), Imerkhev (in Turkey).

C. G. 241 231 TRADITIONAL ECONOMY: Agriculture, cattle-breeding; horticulture; viniculture; arts and crafts.

C. G. 795 RELIGION: Eastern Orthodox; Roman Catholic minority; only the Adzhar and part of the Ingilo are Muslim. There are a number of Georgian-speaking Jewish villages in different parts of the Georgian SSR, totaling 21, 471 persons (1926, Russian census), in Russian referred to as Gruzinskie evrei (Georgian Jews).

C. G. [162]

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C.
G.
241 TRADITIONAL ECONOMY: Agriculture,
231 cattle-raising, hunting, apiculture.

C.
G.
795 RELIGION: Eastern Orthodox.

C. G. 197 LANGUAGE: Abkhaz belongs to NW Caucasian, together with Circassian and Ubykh (the latter no longer spoken in the Caucasus). Two dialects have been reduced to writing: in the Abkhaz ASSR that of the Abzhui, in the Cherkes AO that of the Tapanta. The speakers of the Abaza dialects are all bilingual and speak also the Kabardian dialect of Circassian. In the Abkhaz ASSR knowledge of Georgian is widespread.

SUBDIVISION: Abkhaz has five major dialects: Bzyb', Abzhui, Samurzakan', Ashkharwa and Tapanta. The speakers of the latter two dialects are known as Abaza (R. Abazintsy), though linguistically the first four dialects form one group, while Tapanta stands apart.

C G 101 Further tribal names (Russ. form): Tsebeldintsy, Dzhigety; (Abaza:) Beshilbei, Tam, Barakei.

C. G. 241 231 TRADITIONAL ECONOMY: Cattle-breeding; agriculture, viniculture; apiculture.

C. G. 795 RELIGION: Islam (Sunni); Eastern Orthodox.

G. 245 [250] pomegranates) are grown in abundance. They are preserved in sugar by a boiling-down process. Important vegetables are lentils, beans, G. 244 peas, onions, eggplants, celery, garlic, fennel, mustard and several kinds of cucurbitaceous plants. The raising of silkworms is G. 231 common, especially in the West. Beekeeping is widespread; hollwed-out logs are used as beehives; these are covered against the rain with pieces of bark or straw mats. Honey is also gathered from wild beees. Hunting is of G. 224 some importance in the highlands (deer, rabbits, fowl); it is traditionally engaged in by herdsmen, who take turns watching the herds. G. 226 Fishing is of importance only on the Black Sea coast and on the lower course of the rivers running into it.

Because of the lack of pasture land, G. 231 cattle-breeding is less important in the Georgian lowlands than it is in the mountains. The Georgians keep buffaloes, oxen, pigs, horses, donkeys, mules, goats and sheep. The latter usually are of the fat-tail variety, except among G. 233 the Svan. In summer, the herds are taken to 221 the mountain pastures by herdsmen. The herds are led by a billy goat and are kept together by goats; dogs accompany the herds only as protectors against wolves. To keep the latter at a distance, fires are kept going during the night.

Cattle and sheep breeding have a greater relative importance for the Svan and especially the Pshav and Tush. The latter are predominantly seminomadic herdsmen; the men

E. & 233 221 spend the winter in the steppes of the lower Alazani river with their herds of sheep. On the other hand, the Tush living on the Lower Alazani, and also the Bats, move with their families to the mountain pastures in summer, where they live in huts, sunk into the ground and covered with slates. The indigenous means of transportation is a clumsy two-wheeled cart (uremi) drawn by a pair of oxen or buffaloes. The large wooden disk wheels are firmly joined to the axle-tree. In the mountains, sledges are used to carry in the hay. In a peculiar vehicle called chochiala uremi rolling and sliding are combined: the ends of two long poles attached to the yoke, which slide on the ground, serve the purpose of a pair of front wheels.

C. G. 493

E. G. 231 241 The traditional economy of the North-West Caucasian peoples (Abkhaz and Circassians) was based on horse and cattle breeding, agriculture (millet, maize, wheat, rye) some horticulture, beekeeping and (Abkhaz) wine growing. The Abkhaz methods in these activities are the same as the Georgian. Formerly, their economy was largely pastoral, but in the second half of the nineteenth century they became more agricultural. The country is better suited to agriculture, though horse and sheep raising are still important. The Western Circassians, too, were more dependent on cattle-breeding before their forced migration from the mountains to the lowlands of the Kuban. The Kabardians are still mainly sheep-, cattle-, and especially horse-breeders: the Kabardian horses are famous for their

C. G. 231 241 beauty and stamina. Apiculture is also widespread among the Circassians; their beehives, contrary to those of the Georgians and Abkhaz, are similar to those found in Central Europe; they are made of bast or of plaited willow-twigs which are covered with clay or cow-dung.

C. D. 233 In Dagestan, stock-raising is preponderant (sheep, goats, cows, horses, donkeys, buffaloes). In winter, the herds are usually brought to the steppe-country in the South or to the Caspian coast area. The southeast, i. e. the country of the Lezghi, is comparatively better suited for agriculture, but it is practiced even in the more elevated regions. Wheat, barley and millet are grown in small fields, situated on natural or artificial terraces, which often require artificial irrigation. The ground is cultivated with a local kind of light plough called durats, puruts, etc. which only scrapes the soil superficially. As most of the fields require manuring, the constant removing of stones, and even restoring of the soil, which has to be carried up by hand, farming involves hard labor. As the production of grain has never covered the needs of the population, home-industry is highly developed in Dagestan. Everywhere the women do their own spinning and weaving. The spinning wheel is unknown; the looms for carpet-weaving differ from those for the weaving of coarse cloth out of homespun wool and of hemp-cloth used for sacks. Many crafts are practiced beyond the

C. D. 241

C D [40]

C. D. 438

C. D. [286]

bacco, and raw silk. Wine is also produced in the area south of Tbilisi, with the center at Bolnisi (formerly Lyuksemburgi).

The livestock herds of Georgia graze chiefly in mountain pastures. This is especially true of the sheep and goats. There is some dairy farming in the Kura valley.

The health resorts of the Georgian SSR play an important role in the economy of the country. They fall principally within the mineral springs and climatological varieties and are frequented by tourists and convalescents from the entire USSR. The best-known resorts are Abastumani, in the southwest, the high altitude resorts of Borzhomi (famous for its bottled mineral water) and near-by Bakuriani, and also Surami and Tskhaltubo.

For transportation facilities Georgia relies mainly on the Baku-Tbilisi-Batumi trunk railroad and its many branches. During the Second World War the Black Sea coastal line was completed; it is now used by direct Moscow-Tbilisi trains. Formerly the route led around the eastern end of the Greater Caucasus and via Baku. Short spurs connect the main trunk line with the port of Poti, the mines of Tkibuli and Chiatura, the resort of Borzhomi, and the lignite mines near Akhaltsikhe, as well as with Stalinir, the capital of the South Ossetian Autonomous Oblast. From Navtlug, an eastern suburb of Tbilisi, a branch goes northeast to Kakhetia, and the southern main line leads to the Armenian SSR and the Aras valley. Three important highways cross the central portion of the Greater Caucasus into Georgia. These are the Sukhumi military road, crossing at Klukhori Pass and terminating at Sukhumi on the Black Sea, the Ossetian military road, which leads through Mamison Pass to Kutaisi, and the Georgian military road, which starts at Dzaudzhikau (North Ossetian Autonomous SSR), winds through the picturesque Dar'yal gorge, overcomes the crest at Krestovyy Pass, and has its southern terminus at Mtskheta and Tbilisi.

The principal export products of the Georgian SSR include manganese, lumber, tobacco, fruits (mainly citrus fruits), wine, and tea.

Tbilisi (formerly Tiflis) is the capital of the Georgian SSR and the second largest city and industrial center of Transcaucasia. It is a very old city, which was founded on the historic route leading from Europe to Asia along the Kura valley. It lies at the junction of the Transcaucasian trunk railroad with the Georgian military road. The industry includes machine construction (primarily implements used in oil drilling and the processing of raw silk, wine, and tea), textile milling (silk and